



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

John Hoeven
Governor

September 7, 2006

The Honorable Rod Blagojevich
Governor, State of Illinois
207 State House
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Re: ICC Docket No. 06-0470
Letter of Support in Enbridge Energy Partners, L.P. and Enbridge Energy, Limited
Partnership Application for Certificate in Good Standing

Dear Governor Blagojevich:

On behalf of the North Dakota oil producers and the people of North Dakota, I urge your support for swift consideration of Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership application for a Certificate in Good Standing.

I am commenting as the Governor of North Dakota on this proceeding before the Illinois Commerce Commission because there are numerous oil producers in the state of North Dakota (as well as Montana) that ship crude oil to market via the existing Enbridge pipeline network that feeds into the Chicago area and beyond.

Ironically, in the middle of a long-term energy shortage for most of the last year, America's Williston Basin crude supply has been faced with a lack of pipeline capacity into key refinery markets for a variety of reasons.

We are partnering with industry to implement a variety of solutions to this problem, but one important solution is the expansion of Enbridge Pipeline's gathering and transmission system in the state of North Dakota. This system interconnects with the Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership (the applicant before the ICC) in northern Minnesota. The expansion Enbridge has submitted to the ICC is needed to move growing supplies of North Dakota production and growing production in other parts of the Williston Basin.

Current oil drilling activity is having a significant positive impact on my state -- raising wages, generating oil tax revenue and stimulating the economics of our rural counties, as well as contributing to our nation's energy independence.

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Enbridge Ex. 1
Attachment O

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In the current energy shortage, I believe we should encourage domestic production of crude oil and an expansion of the Enbridge system is a critical part of that solution. In fact, the new capacity should encourage new investment and further oil development in North Dakota and other parts of the Williston Basin.

Ultimately, increased domestic oil production and increased capacity to transport that supply will benefit the nation's refineries and the people their products serve in the Midwest, including the people of Illinois.

Thank you for your consideration of my support for the Enbridge expansion and I urge swift approval of this application to help the citizens of Illinois and North Dakota through increased transmission capacity for domestically produced crude oil.

Sincerely,


John Hoeven
Governor

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